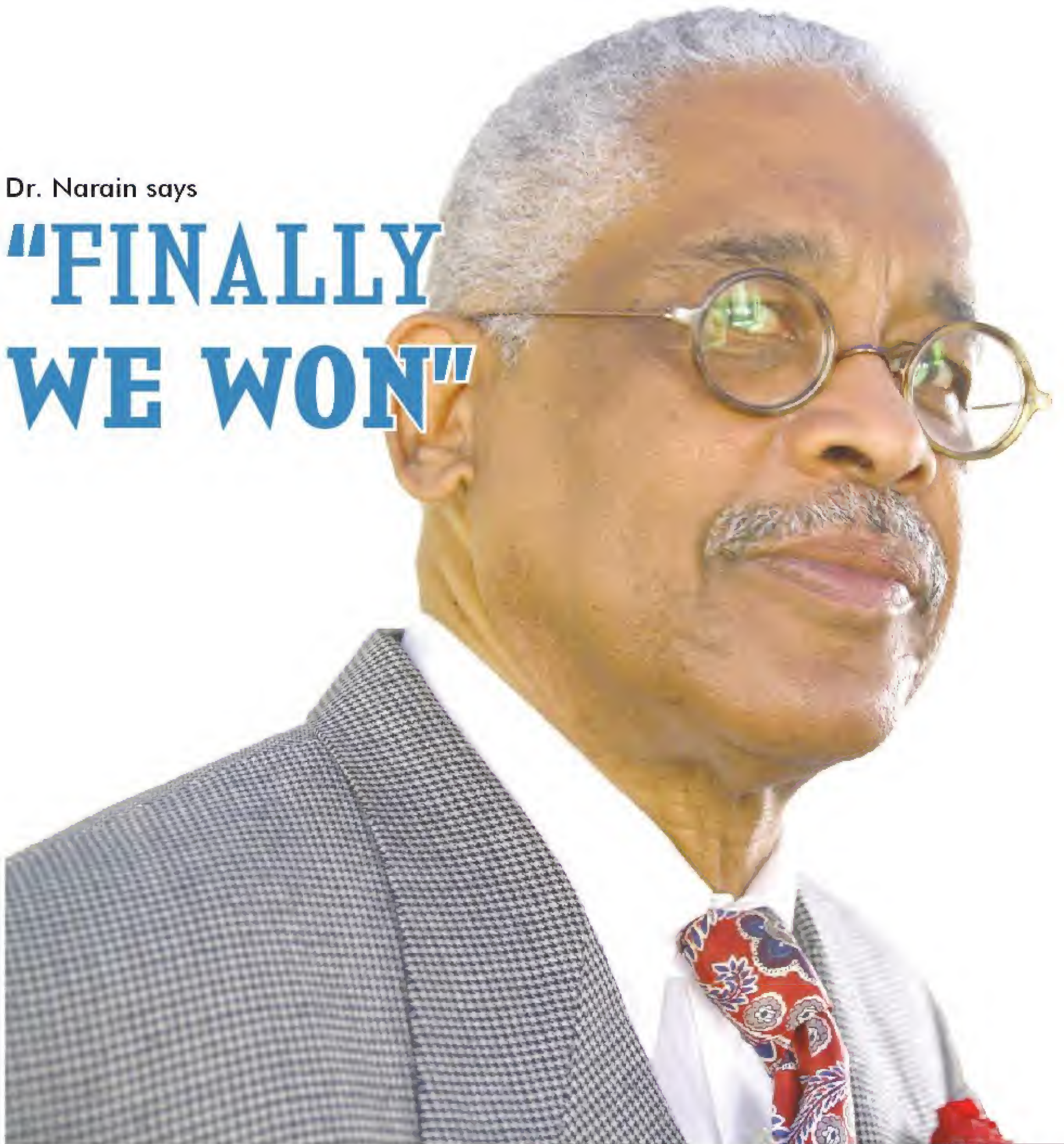


Dr. Narain says

**"FINALLY
WE WON"**



Dr. Narain says

"FINALLY WE WON"

GYNECOLOGIST Narain has officially won the court case he filed against the Horacio Oduber Hospital (HOH) a few weeks ago. The Judge in the case said the contract Narain signed 15 years ago is valid, and the hospital cannot deny the doctor access to the facilities to perform his job.

During the summary proceeding that was started a few weeks ago the Judge already said the doctor must be allowed on the premises of the HOH while he would be deliberating his final verdict, said Chris Lejuez, attorney for Dr. Narain, but has now given his official ruling in favor of the doctor.

Valid contract

When Narain started working at the Hospital 15 years ago, he signed an admission agreement with the hospital. In this document, that originally stated the doctor would be able to work at the facilities until age 65, Narain decided to make an amendment. The doctor crossed out the "65" in the contract, and wrote

out that he would like to reserve the right to continue working until the age of 70.

This contract, with the amendment written out by Narain, was never contested by the Hospital over the past 15 years. So in his verdict, the Judge said the Hospital was too late to do so now. "The Judge finds that for the Hospital to come now after 15 years for the first time saying to Narain that they don't actually accept that he changed the age, [the Judge] finds that it is too long. If you would like to say that you do not agree with that amendment to the contract, you should have done it as soon as possible, and the Judge says, after 15 years is not as soon as possible," said Attorney Lejuez.

Therefore, says the Judge, Narain's admission contract must be treated as valid with the amendment made by the doctor. If the Hospital still denies Dr. Narain access to its premises to perform his job, they will be fined Afl 5000 for every day that the doctor is denied access, up to a total of Afl 500,000.

"Intolerable"

Attorney Lejuez also said the Judge found it "intolerable" that HOH uses two measures to deal with the doctors who work there. "That is also the word [the Judge] used, 'intolerable' that you use two measures that you do allow certain gynecologists who are over the age of 65 to work in the Hospital, and Dr. Narain over the age of 65 is not allowed to work in the Hospital," Lejuez said.

Apparently the Hospital has other retired gynecologists work there as acting gynecologists from time to time, while Dr. Narain was denied access, supposedly based on his age.

This is perhaps the reason why the doctor, when asked about the case, said, "This was a personal vendetta against me." The doctor also said the situation started many years ago, but "finally we won." Narain says he would like to continue working as long as he feels healthy. And now, after the Judge's verdict, he will also be able to do so.

The Police union is

DETERMINED to continue onward

ANGELO Davelaar hopes he will be reelected today to the Police Union, SPA. He first entered the Union in 2007 as the treasurer. He was reelected three times in that position, for a total of 6 years, before he was chosen as the President of the SPA in 2013. Today, Davelaar hopes he will once again be reelected as the president of the union, where he would like to continue working for the welfare and progress of its members, the Aruban Police Corp (KPA). During the last two years, Police Officers have made a substantial progress juristically. This is attributed in part due to the intervention and push by the SPA. Davelaar refers to a number of promotions that were stuck, and lastly were finalized, as well as recognitions of Officers completing years of service in the Corp, compensations for the function of acting Chief on Duty, and also the intervention at the Finance Department for delayed overtime pays.

The work performed by the Union was not only through meetings and intervention with the head of the Police Corp, says Davelaar, but also with the Department of Human Resources of the Government, the public pension fund APFA,

and the Finance Department of the Government. The members of the current board of the SPA are co-authors of the latest agreement signed with the Government that arranged for raises in the so-called Bashi Premie, Reparatie Premie and Gelijkbedrag, sums paid out by the Government as secondary benefits to public employees. The KPA employs 600 Police Officers, of which more than 400 are members of the Union. Today, the elections for the new board will be held from 7:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Member can vote at the Police stations in Dakota, Santa Cruz, Noord, and San Nicolas.

The current board, up for reelections, consists of Angelo Davelaar as president, Agbert Croes as vice-president, Michelle Rasmiijn as secretary, Mario Kock as treasurer, and Kennesi Montero, Mireille Henriquez and Jaime Richardson as board members. The Police Union has existed since January 1, 1986. Over the past few years the Union has been instrumental as an interlocutor with the head of the Police Corp, and also as a member in the Government's Social Dialog, as well as other platforms at the national level.





Political party MEP asks WEB to

CANCEL Urirama project DEFINITIVELY

POLITICAL party MEP wants the Water and Energy Company (WEB) to put a definitive stop the wind turbines project at Urirama. This is what Parliament Member for the MEP Glenbert Croes said after a Judge ruled in favor of the parties suing the Government for the permits given in the Urirama project.

"Aside from the fact that we are happy with the verdict of the Judge related to the Urirama case, it is important to reflect on the case itself," Croes said. "The verdict sends a key signal, and that's why we would like to address the management of utility companies WEB and Elmar."

According to Croes, now is a moment to make a big decision, the definitive cancellation of the project at Urirama, because the interest of the people must be safeguarded. "The reality is that the cost of living has increased drastically, and in this case the green projects are contributing towards making the cost of living un-payable," Croes said.

The Parliament Member says that the consequences for the Aruban people are being ignored. Anything that can be done to lighten the burden being carried by Aruban families must be considered as an option, he said. "It is obvious that Aruba cannot continue with

these kinds of projects, or the Public-Private Projects (PPP), because this is affecting our public finance with all the consequences thereof," Croes said. "In the case of Urirama, we are happy that for now this area will remain vacant and that the sanctuary will not be damaged."

MEP hopes WEB and Elmar management will cancel the project, as there are already "clear signals" that the project is not beneficial to the people. "Keeping this in mind, it is appropriate to annul the increase in electricity, because the people will not know any benefit anyway," says Croes.

Legislation to control the amount of all inclusive properties

MINISTER Otmar Oduber says that the phenomenon of all inclusive is a discussion that is going on for almost two years now. The Minister indicates that on a global level the tourism already is going entirely in this direction. Well-known hotel chains like the Hyatt are and has a line of all inclusive. Marriott is going towards that same direction. The same clients of these hotel chains are asking for all inclusive service. The management of Minister Otmar Oduber, which is sustained by a motion that was unanimously approved in the Parliament, is to make sure that there is a legislation where the operations of all inclusive in Aruba will be licensed.

A report on this issue was presented since last October and until recently has been expanded. This activity will generate a cash flow and those who work in all inclusive most of the times has the cash available to purchase properties. And this can also happen in Aruba also and this is the reason why

a license for old and existent operations is necessary. The Minister said that he wants to have a conversation with the AHATA to stipulate a certain percentage of the method of making business to be conformed according to all inclusive operations similar to the ones existing at the moment.

The Minister said that the operations of all inclusive is one that is threatening our island, because the greater risk is distinctly greater by those who already have a license and which can be bought over. We can point to what has happened in the past with the Westin Hotel that the RIU hotel took over. The Radison was another hotel that was about to be bought over by an all inclusive. The Minister extends his gratitude to the Carlson family which after the government appealed; they decided not to sell with all inclusive companies but to a local company. The Barcel group, which is an all inclusive



also bought a minority of the Occidental Hotel. The Minister will meet with them for more information what their plans are and their future management. The Minister of Tourism believes that Aruba has the privilege to be one destination with limits hotel rooms and our product is one of a high quality. This means that we can decide whether or not to control the amount of all inclusive properties. This management is also approved by the 21 members of the Parliament.

Faro Blanco Restaurant celebrates 100 YEARS of the California Lighthouse



IN connection with the 100 years of existence of the iconic California Lighthouse, the Faro Blanco Restaurant is celebrating this landmark with special promotions for its visitors starting next month. At the same time, the restaurant is also launching its new logo, inspired by its connection to the lighthouse and historicity of the building. The California Lighthouse, situated on the hill of Hudishibana, was constructed during the years 1914-1916. The celebration of the 100 years of existence of the lighthouse started this year, when the Aruban Government transferred the lighthouse to the Monument Fund. In the month of June, the Monument Fund will start to restore and maintain this important monument.

In light of this development, the Faro Blanco Restaurant thought it was the perfect opportunity to reflect on their history, as the building of the restaurant originally was the house of the lighthouse keeper. Faro Blanco Manager Arthur Kelly says the house

has been functioning as a restaurant for 21 years now. The popular restaurant is the host for many celebrations such as weddings, anniversaries, and birthdays for locals as well as tourists. During the past 21 years, the building has been renovated and expanded, but has always maintained the characteristic elements of the original lighthouse keeper's house.

"The entire Faro Blanco Restaurant team has concluded that they are incredibly proud and grateful to be able to share the hill of Hudishibana with the California Lighthouse, which is an attraction visited by practically all tourists who come to Aruba," Kelly said. On the hill, visitors can admire the lighthouse, enjoy Aruba's scenery and savor exquisite dishes. Faro Blanco Restaurant wants to honor the union between the Lighthouse, the Aruban nature, and the restaurant through the creation of a new logo that communicates this connection.

To turn this sentiment into a visual image, the Faro Blanco Restaurant

approached young Aruban Artist Armando Goedgedrag to create the logo. Goedgedrag is known for his paintings and photography which are inspired by Aruba's nature. Goedgedrag says on the logo the California Lighthouse can be seen, in an elegant yet dominant position, in between a turtle and an owl. The turtle was chosen to illustrate the nature in the surrounding area. Turtles honor the surrounding beaches by laying their nests there, the artist said, and are animals that are faithful to their place of birth.

The owl was also chosen to illustrate nature, as Aruba's national bird, and also as a significant personal symbol for Goedgedrag, who is passionate about Aruba's owls and the conservation of these prestigious animals. As the hill of Hudishibana is visited both during the day and night, this was also illustrated in the logo, by the chosen use of colors. Kelly also said the restaurant is offering various items for sale displaying the new logo, such as t-shirts, hats, towels, and water bottles. The restaurant has also

commissioned local artist Trudy Lampe for the creation of handmade souvenirs inspired by its new logo. Lampe is an Aruban-born artist, specializing in ceramics, who also experiments with several materials such as driftwood and canvas.

As part of the 100 year celebration of the Lighthouse, the Faro Blanco Restaurant will have special promotions starting next month. All of next month anyone celebrating a birthday in June can dine for free at the Faro Blanco. Additionally, for local visitors the dinner menu prices will be charged in florins instead, said Marketing Manager for the Faro Blanco Restaurant Roderic Illis.

During July, all children and teens who present a report card with all passing grades will receive a free meal, as long as they are accompanied by at least one adult. The restaurant will have special promotions every month for the remainder of the year. Follow the Faro Blanco Restaurant on Facebook and Instagram to keep up to date with all upcoming promotions.



EXPANDEER

S U C C E E D O N L I N E

International **DIGITAL** **Marketing** **seminar** to be held on Aruba

INTERNATIONAL digital marketing agency Expandeer, which is headquartered on Aruba, is organizing the "Digital & Social Marketing for Business Growth Seminar Aruba", an event that will take place on June 5 at The Office, located in Dr. J.E.M. Arends street. The seminar has been especially designed for business owners, general managers, and marketing managers on Aruba. According to Expandeer, there is a great interest in the topic of digital marketing, as the habits of the Aruban consumer have been changing. The current preference is to receive information through various media channels, such as through the Web, social media, mobile, and traditional media.

Locals have expressed an interest in these types of seminars, where not only the latest digital strategies and tactics will be explained, but the speakers will also show how pioneering local businesses are currently using these concepts on Aruba. This initiative has already received recognition from the business community in Curacao, where more than 50 large and medium-sized businesses participated at the same seminar in March of this year. Guido Picus, Director of Digital Marketing at Expandeer assured that this seminar will be unique, and will also feature a speaker from London, England via live streaming.

For more information and for registration, please visit the webpage succeed-online-aruba.eventbrite.com.



International No Tobacco Day:

Choose to QUIT SMOKING



NEXT Sunday, 31 May, is the International No Tobacco Day, a day to stop and reflect on the health consequences of smoking. The idea behind this day is to encourage people around the world to abstain from smoking for 24 hours, and in this way highlight the excessive use of tobacco, as well as the negative effects that tobacco can have on people's health. Worldwide about 6 million people die each year because of smoking, not counting the 600,000 deaths caused by secondhand smoking.

The advice of the World Cancer Research Fund in bringing awareness to cancer is focused on nutrition, exercise, and keeping one's weight under control, but cannot ignore the topic of smoking. Smoking can cause cancer and research shows that passive smokers also run the risk of getting cancer. Passive smokers are people who don't smoke, but live or work with people who smoke, and therefore frequently become victims of secondary smoking.

In 90 percent of lung cancer cases, tobacco was the main cause. Tobacco also increases

the risk of other cancers such as cancer of the mouth and throat, cancer of the esophagus, pancreatic cancer, uterus cancer, cancer of the kidney, bladder cancer, stomach cancer, cancer of the intestine, and liver cancer. Tobacco combined with the excessive use of alcohol increases these health risks. If you smoke, the best step you can take to minimize your risk for cancer is to stop smoking. You will quickly notice the improvement in your overall health. Your family physician can support you in this step and also provide additional information on the various methods that can help you stop smoking.

Cancer foundation Koningin Wilhelmina Fonds Aruba (KWF) helps cancer patients and their families by providing information on how to live a healthy life and cancer prevention. If you would like to learn more about smoking and cancer, you can visit our Information Center at Spinozastraat 9, right behind the Water tower in Oranjestad. You may also contact the KWF by calling at 582-0412 or by visiting their Facebook page or website at www.koninginwilhelminafonds.com.



Beach Tennis tournament to host

INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPANTS

THIS Friday another Beach Tennis tournament will start. This tournament is classified under the International Tennis Federation (ITF), and will give participating teams points on the world ranking. Compared to previous months, this month there are more teams from abroad, informs Beach Tennis Aruba (BTA), specifically teams from Venezuela and Ecuador.

BTA says it is the first time that they are hosting teams from Ecuador in a local tournament. The program

starts on Friday, May 29, at the Tropicana Beach Tennis Club with the matches of the singles' teams in the adult category and the first rounds of the Women and Men's Open categories. These matches will be from 6:00 to 10:00 p.m. On Saturday, May 30, the tournament will continue at Eagle Beach from 10:00 in the morning.

The first matches will be in the second round of Women's Doubles. At 11:00 a.m., the second round of the Men's categories will start. The matches will last

all day on Saturday.

On Sunday, May 31, the matches start at 10:00 a.m. with the last round of the Women's Doubles and Men's Doubles categories.

The games will continue until the final match is played, which is expected to be at about 5:00 p.m. BTA wants to invite everyone to come out and enjoy the games and cheer on the local teams, who will be battling to maintain their positions of honor at home.



IBISA y COA celebrate

"World Olympic Day 2015"



WE are approaching the end of the school year and with it also all sports competitions organized by the IBISA for the schools in Aruba. The last activities on the program for this school year will take place in June. This will be the 1, 2 & 3 kilometer run for kids of primary schools. IBISA is joining the Aruban Olympic Committee to organize this activity in combination with the "5K Walk & Run" to celebrate "World Olympic Day 2015". This will take place on June 13 2015. Participation on both activities will be free and will be held at the Linear Park.

Registration for 1, 2 & 3 Kilometer:

Kids that are participating in this category have to register at the school where they attend. Information and registration form is available at all the schools in Aruba. The last day to register will be Friday June 5th 2015.

No registration will be taken on the day of the event. Participants are asked to be at Linear Park at 7:30 AM. The run will start at 8:00 AM.

To participate in the 1 Km run, kids have to be born in 2006 or before. For the 2 Km run, kids have to be born in 2004 – 2005. And for the 3 Km run, kids have to be born in 2002 – 2003.

Prizes for 1, 2 & 3 Km:

Soon after the run is over, will continue awards ceremony. The 3 first places of each ages category will be rewarded for both boys and girls.

5K Fun Walk & Run:

After the 1, 2 & 3 kilometer run and while the results of the winners are being processed and awarded, will take place the "5K Fun Walk & Run" to

celebrate the "World Olympic Day". Participation to this event is also completely free and open to all ages. Registration for the "5K Fun Walk & Run" can be done through email. Send our registration email to Mrs. Jacqueline Ponson-van Putten, Jacqueline.vanPutten@aruba.gov.aw.

The registration form for the "5K Fun Walk & Run" can be found on the IBISA Facebook page and can be downloaded. Fill in the form and email it to Mrs. Jacqueline Ponson-van Putten. The form can be filled individually or per group. You can also contact Mrs. Ponson-van Putten directly through her email or at 5824987, and at IBISA

office at Frankrijkstraat #1.

IBISA and COA invite all parents of the children who are participating in this event, and whole Aruba to participate at the "5K Fun Walk & Run" to commemorate and celebrate the "World Olympic Day 2015".

Let us participate together with IBISA and the Aruban Olympic Committee to make "World Olympic Day 2015" celebration big and at the same time support our kids den their school event. With this we will bring the IBISA sports competitions for the schools to a grand end for this school year.



Team Aruba hopes to continue **UNDEFEATED** RECORD

at Cordova International Raceway



TWO years ago this month was the first time Team Aruba ventured to Cordova International Raceway (CIR). Driver Trevor Eman had just graduated from college and things were moving forward for the team who, at the time, was often considered one of the underdogs of Mountain Motor Pro Stock. That event at CIR would be a turning point, however, as Eman captured the pole and went on to win the race. From that moment on, Team Aruba has consistently been one of top runners in Mountain Motor Pro Stock. Now, Team Aruba returns to CIR and is

hoping to repeat their previous success. "It's always great to return to a track that you've had success at in the past," said Eman. "We have nothing but great memories here and want to keep it that way! This group of Pro Stock racers is tough, but we know our team has what it takes to win here again."

Cordova International Raceway has undergone recent improvements to its facility, including new asphalt for the quarter-mile and new grandstands. "I know for a fact that there was not very much wrong with the track, as we were

#1 qualifier in our league's class and even took the win in 2013," continued Eman. "However, the fact that they are performing this work shows that the race track is not shy to perform general maintenance and hopeful improvements. Whenever you perform such proactive investments in the infrastructure of a race track, it shows the company is making strides forward. "It makes it very comfortable for us as Pro Stock racers to make investments in new race cars, new parts, new tools and new equipment to continue racing in the future, because moves

like Cordova is doing, shows how they and the IHRA plan on being around for a long time. Hats off to the IHRA and Cordova International Raceway for these positive steps forward. We look forward to a fantastic racing surface, and hopefully we can maintain the reputation that Team Aruba has left behind in 2013."

Follow Team Aruba on Facebook and Twitter. Find race results, team updates, videos and photos. Also leave your comments to cheer on Team Aruba!

"Athlete Career Outreach Program"

THE Aruban Olympic Committee presents the project "Athlete Career Outreach Program" for the second time in Aruba. The main speaker for this event will be the Olympic medalist Claudia Bokel. The project "Athlete Career Outreach Program" started in 2012 and was introduced in Aruba for the first time then and it became a great success.

And now after three years, will The Aruban Olympic Committee, along with the International Olympic committee, organize this seminar again and this will be directed specially for a group of athletes

who represent various disciplines in sports.

Claudia Bokel, a World Champion and also an Olympic medalist in fencing, will be the main speaker for the event. She is at the present the President of the Athlete Committee of IOC and member of the Executive Committee of IOC. She will be the one directing the program. We must say that the topics will be highly interesting. She will elaborate on Sports, Education and Career. What are the influences of these in our daily lives, do they go together or are they separated?

What are the aspects that make the

athlete successful in one area and that make him succeed in multiple areas in his life? Such like these, there will be more interesting topics in the "Athlete Career Outreach Program".

This seminar will take place on Saturday, May 30th at the Renaissance Hotel Ocean Suite on the third floor. It will start from 9:00 AM and finishes at 3:00 PM. For the sports federations and their athletes who are interested to participate to this seminar, please contact the Aruban Olympic Committee at 582-0031 or email at jerasmus@olympicaruba.com. Register today.

CHINA DEFENDS SOUTH CHINA SEA ISLAND BUILDING DEVELOPMENT



BEIJING (AP) — Responding to sharply-worded comments from the U.S. defense secretary, China on Thursday defended its building of artificial islands in the South China Sea and accused Washington of stirring up trouble in the economically vital region.

Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Hua Chunying said no outside actors have the right to dictate to China in an area it claims as its sovereign territory.

She said the U.S. was committing "provocations and instigations" that threaten stability — a reference to Washington's refusal to recognize Chinese sovereignty over the newly built dry land.

"China has its own judgment, and no others are entitled the rights to demand China how to act," Hua told reporters. She added that China was acting appropriately as a "big power." She said the status quo of the

South China Sea is generally stable, "but some countries keep on make provocations out of their selfish purposes, willfully challenging China's territorial integrity and maritime rights."

Hua's remarks came a day after Defense Secretary Ash Carter called for an "immediate and lasting halt" to all land recla-

mation projects by any Pacific nations.

Carter also rejected China's formal complaint over a U.S. surveillance plane's flight last week over a Chinese-controlled island in the disputed Spratly group, saying the U.S. would "fly, sail and operate wherever international law allows."

Frictions over China's island

building project are expected to overshadow this weekend's annual Shangri-la Dialogue defense forum in Singapore, which Carter is attending alongside Sun Jianguo, China's vice chief of general staff, and other military leaders. Unlike last year, when Chinese representatives appeared to be blindsided by criticism, they seem more likely to respond this year.

WASHINGTON (AP) — The FBI says it's begun an investigation into the theft of personal tax information of more than 100,000 taxpayers from an Internal Revenue Service website. The FBI said Thursday that agents were "working to determine the nature and scope of this matter." The agency is advising individuals it's contacted to take steps to safeguard their personal information. IRS Commissioner John Koskinen has said the information was stolen as part of an elaborate scheme to claim fraudulent tax refunds. Two officials told The Associated Press on Wednesday that IRS investigators believe the identity thieves are part of a sophisticated criminal operation based in Russia. The information was taken from an IRS website called "Get Transcript," where taxpayers can get tax returns and other tax filings from previous years.

FBI SAYS IT'S INVESTIGATING IDENTITY THEFT AT IRS



VIDEO OF MOB BURNING TEEN ALIVE IN GUATEMALA SPURS OUTRAGE



(CNN)—A large crowd stands by as a teenage girl -- beaten and bloodied -- writhes on the ground, her body engulfed in flames.

"Add gasoline," someone shouts.

The shocking scene from a Guatemalan village went viral online and has spurred a debate over what some describe as vigilante justice in the Central American country. Citing witnesses in the village of Rio Bravo, local media reported that the girl was beaten and burned to death for her alleged involvement in the killing of a taxi driver there earlier this month.

Police told CNN they haven't verified the authenticity of the video. But they said they are investigating the circumstances leading up to the death of a 16-year-old girl who was set on fire in Rio Bravo, a small village two hours west of Guatemala's capital in the state of Suchitepequez. Guatemalan authorities have pointed to vigilante justice as a persistent problem, particularly in rural areas.

After a wave of mob attacks last year, President Otto Perez Molina said it's a problem that results from a lack of enough police officers patrolling the population. But some analysts have suggested it's a matter of how little people trust police and other authorities, not how many officers are on the streets.

So far this year, there have been more than 20 similar mob burnings in the country, according to Mario Po-

lanco of Guatemala's Grupo de Apoyo Mutuo human rights organization. "It is unfortunate these types of situations occur," Polanco said. "They are produced by the weakness of the state's institutions to guarantee safety and justice for the population, and so (people) take justice into their own hands."

Guatemala is one of the world's most violent countries, according to the United Nations, which created a commission in 2006 to investigate corruption and impunity there. Nearly every murder in Guatemala goes unsolved, and convictions are achieved in only about 6% of all criminal cases, the commission says on its website.

WITNESSES: MOB STOPPED POLICE FROM STEPPING IN

The video purporting to show the teen's death in Rio Bravo, which was posted on YouTube and numerous Guatemalan media websites, begins with an image of the girl stumbling with blood streaming down her face. A large crowd of people standing shoulder to shoulder watches as men and women slam her face into ground and kick her head. Then, someone sets her on fire and douses her with gasoline. Some in the crowd record the incident on their cell phones. No one steps in to put out the blaze.

Residents who spoke with CNN affiliate Noti7 said the teenager in the video and two men robbed and

shot dead a taxi driver. The two men -- one of whom is believed to have fired the deadly shot -- escaped the crime scene, but a group of residents captured the girl and attacked her.

Police eventually arrived at the scene, witnesses told Noti7, but the mob quickly turned on officers and blocked any attempts at rescue.

REACTIONS MIXED

The Catholic Church and government officials have condemned the incident, Noti7 reported. And on social media and in the comments sections of local media reports about what happened, many people have blasted the town's residents.

"They are just as much murderers as the those who killed the taxi driver," one person posted in response to an article about the incident on the Guatevision website. "May God pardon them. She was almost a girl. It hurts me to see that there was not even one good soul who helped this girl. Remember that we will all be measured by the same bar."

But reactions have been mixed. Some have even applauded what they said was justice being served. "Let's see if all of you who are speaking out here would have defended this girl if she'd killed your son, mother, father or grandfather," another post on the Guatevision article said.



AUSTIN, TEXAS, (REUTERS) - The National Weather Service issued a new flash flood watch on Thursday for large parts of Texas, where severe weather this week has left at least 16 people dead, damaged thousands of structures and flooded cities such as Houston and Austin.

The warning stretches from south of San Antonio to Dallas, through Oklahoma, where severe weather this week killed an additional six people, and into Kansas. Thunderstorms pelted large parts of the affected region on Thursday morning.

In Texas, the latest victim of the deadly storms that brought flooding on Monday was a boy whose body was recovered near the central city of San Marcos, Hays County officials said.

The boy, who has not been identified, was thought to have been swept away in Blanco River floods that ripped houses off their foundations, county officials said. There were nine people missing in the county after the flooding.

At least six people were killed by the severe weather in Houston, where flooding turned streets into rivers in the fourth largest U.S. city and left more than a thousand vehicles submerged at one point in rushing waters.

There was no damage estimate available for Texas, which has a \$1.4 trillion-a-year economy and is the country's main domestic source of energy as well as an agricultural and manufacturing power.



Tinder and hookup apps blamed for rise in STDs



RHODE Island's Department of Health says that sexually transmitted diseases are way up in the state, in part because of the increase of hookup apps like Tinder. Between 2013 and 2014, cases of syphilis grew by 79%. HIV infections were up 33% and gonorrhea cases increased by 30%. STD cases for young adults are growing at a faster rate than the rest of the population. Rhode Island says the recent uptick in STD cases follows a national trend. The state's health department blamed "high-risk behaviors that have become more common in recent years," including "using social media to arrange casual and often anonymous sexual

encounters."

A spokesman for Tinder did not respond to a request for comment. Social media and online hookup apps have been blamed for a rise in STDs in the past. A 2013 New York University study found that Craigslist was responsible for a 16% increase in HIV cases between 1999 and 2008 across 33 states. Grinder, a hookup app for gay men, was associated with more than half of all

syphilis cases in New Zealand in 2012, according to Christchurch Sexual Health Clinic.

"These new data underscore the importance of encouraging young people to begin talking to a doctor, nurse, or health educator about sexual health," said Rosemary Reilly-Chammat, an HIV/ AIDS sexuality specialist for the Rhode Island Department of Education, in a press release.

Pearl Harbor memorial closed after accident

(CNN)—The USS Arizona Memorial in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, will be closed to visitors until at least June 4 after a dock to the memorial that sits atop the sunken battleship was damaged in an accident Wednesday, the National Park Service says.

The damage occurred when tugboats were "assisting" the USNS Mercy, an 894-foot-long, 69,000-ton hospital ship, inside the harbor, the U.S. Navy Region Hawaii

said in a statement on its Facebook page.

"Initial visual assessments show that the dock was moved about 10 feet toward the Memorial. A small area of concrete was damaged where the dock's ramp joined the Memorial. The dock's ramps and railings were also damaged," the statement said. "It is not safe for visitors to disembark at the USS Arizona Memorial," said the National Park Service, which administers the memorial, part of the World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument.



Military.com, which first reported the accident, said it occurred around 7 a.m. Hawaii time on Wednesday. A photo on the website shows the hospital ship dangerously close to the 184-foot-long memorial.

The Navy said the accident is under investigation. The USS Arizona was sunk on December 7, 1941, during Japan's surprise attack on Pearl Harbor that brought the United States into World War II. The remains of many of the 1,177 U.S. military personnel who died aboard the Arizona are still inside the wreck. It was the greatest loss of life ever in an attack on a U.S. warship, the park service says.

The memorial was dedicated in 1962. About 5,000 people visit it every day. The Mercy, which has its home port in San Diego, is in Hawaii to participate in Pacific Partnership 2015, a humanitarian and disaster relief exercise, according to the Navy.

Ancient jawbones put new species on the human family tree, researchers say

(CNN)—Meet *Australopithecus deyiremeda*, a newly discovered species of hominin that sheds light on our earliest ancestors, scientists say.

In a study published in the journal *Nature*, the researchers say their discovery in Ethiopia of teeth and jawbones dating back between 3.3 million and 3.5 million years supports the idea that several hominin species coexisted during this period. The remains show clear similarities to "Lucy," the famous 3.2 million-year-old remains of the species *Australopithecus afarensis*, found in 1974. But, the researchers say, there are sufficient differences in the jaw architecture and size and shape of the teeth to mean that this is a new species, indicating that our ancestry is more complicated than previously thought.

The remains were found in the Woranso-Mille area in the deserts of Ethiopia's central Afar region, only 22 miles from the site where Lucy was discovered. The name, *Australopithecus deyiremeda*, derives from the local Afar language and means "close relative" -- referring, the researchers say, to "the species being a close relative of all later hominins."

Researchers use the term "hominin" to refer to a group that includes humans and human ancestors. The leading scientist on the project is Yohannes Haile-Selassie, head of physical anthropology at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History, who has been carrying out field research in the Woranso-Mille area for more than a decade.

"The new species is yet another confirmation that Lucy's species, *Australopithecus afarensis*, was not the only potential human ancestor species that roamed in what is now the Afar region of Ethiopia during the middle Pliocene," he said, in a news release on the museum's website.

"Current fossil evidence from the Woranso-Mille study area clearly shows that there were at least two, if not three, early human species living at the same time and in close geographic proximity," Haile-Selassie said the discovery of a new species would take "the ongoing debate on early hominin diversity to another level" and was likely to be met by skepticism in some quarters.

"However, I think it is time that we look into the earlier phases of our evolution with an open mind and carefully examine the currently available fossil evidence rather than immediately dismissing the fossils that do not fit our long-held hypotheses," he said.

What remains to be investigated further is how these different species were related to each other and to later hominins, the study adds, and what environmental and ecological factors led to such diversity.



Chuck Blazer:

American soccer big turned informant



(CNN)—For years, Chuck Blazer was one of the biggest names in U.S. soccer. He traveled the world, lived in swanky apartments, ate at the best restaurants and used offshore bank accounts.

He just wasn't paying his taxes. He didn't even file his forms.

Blazer was a FIFA executive committee member and at one point the No. 2 man in the soccer governing organization for the Confederation of North, Central America and Caribbean Association Football (CONCACAF).

He is now a key figure in a corruption scandal at the world soccer body. The man who went from raking in illicit millions to secretly recording executives talking about bribery and other graft. A New York Times reporter found Blazer

on Wednesday at a New York hospital. Blazer mouthed the words, "I can't talk" from his room.

"We have no comment," said Mary Mulligan, one of his attorneys.

THE WIRE

An indictment unsealed Wednesday as U.S. Attorney General Loretta Lynch announced charges against 14 other FIFA top figures described the level of Blazer's ill-gotten millions. Blazer had pleaded guilty in 2013 to conspiracy to commit racketeering, wire fraud, money laundering, income tax evasion and failure to report foreign bank accounts, authorities said.

He had amassed \$11 million in unreported income, said

Richard Weber, director of the IRS Criminal Investigation Division. So he became a wire-wearing informant who provided documents and recordings of meetings with FIFA colleagues that hinted at not-so-kosher dealings, law enforcement officials said.

The New York Daily News, in a November article, details just how this soccer insider became a cooperating witness for the U.S. federal government using a keychain wired to record audio at the 2012 London Olympics.

According to the Daily News, on a November night in 2011 two men -- one from the FBI and one from the IRS -- tailed Blazer as he rode his motorized scooter along a Fifth Avenue sidewalk in Manhattan. They caught up with him and gave him his options.

gwig



and Blazer ended up with more than \$750,000 but not all of his promised \$1 million, or 10%.

BuzzFeed, in a June 2014, article, says Mr. 10 Percent was Blazer's nickname. It reported that years ago, Blazer signed a lucrative contract with CONCACAF that "entitled him to 10% — under his unilateral interpretation — of just about every penny the organization brought in."

Blazer's income really took off after the hugely successful 1994 World Cup in the United States. The day after the finals ended, Blazer signed a new contract with the same 10% cut, according to a report by CONCACAF. But , this time, CONCACAF said the money went through an entity on the Cayman Islands.

CONCACAF in the same report, found that the 10 % cut that they contend contractually only should have applied to sponsorships and TV rights fees. Instead it came off of every dime the organization took in including: "match promotion proceeds from the sales of tournament match tickets, luxury suite rentals, parking, and venue concessions."

CORRUPTION ALLEGATIONS NOTHING NEW FOR HIM

Blazer, who is now 70, used his millions on good food and nice living. He even had a \$6,000 a month spot in New

York's Trump Tower for his cats, the Daily News reported. CONCACAF notes that between 1996 and 2011, they paid well over \$800,000 in rent for apartments "used by Blazer."

He left CONCACAF in 2011 and FIFA in 2013, both times after controversy. In May 2011, Blazer handed to FIFA a report accusing two of its most high profile members -- Jack Warner, who ran CONCACAF and was a FIFA vice president, and Mohamed bin Hammam, head of the Asian Football Confederation -- of bribery at a Caribbean Football Union meeting early that month. (Warner was one of the 14 people indicted Wednesday)

Warner resigned while bin Hammam is now banned for life by FIFA. Bin Hammam denied the allegations and Blazer stepped down from CONCACAF five months after the report was issued. Blazer was suspended by FIFA in May 2013 after an ethics committee found he likely had received at least \$15 million in addition to other funds that were used to buy and rent luxury apartments. He left his position when his term ran out and the FIFA investigation was called off.

What wasn't known at the time was that he'd already been indicted in the United States on corruption charges, along with three other people.

Go to prison for tax evasion or help us out with our soccer corruption investigation. "We can take you away in handcuffs now -- or you can cooperate," Blazer reportedly was told, according to the newspaper.

SOUTH AFRICA DEAL?

In 2004, Blazer and two co-conspirators worked a deal with the South African government and the country's World Cup bid committee to get \$10 million in exchange for votes to bring the 2010 finals to South Africa, the indictment says. The South African Football Association called the allegations baseless and promised to challenge them.

The indictment says in the end the money came from funds from FIFA that should have gone to South Africa

What is Nike's role in the FIFA corruption scandal?



NIKE may not be an official FIFA sponsor. But that hasn't stopped the company from being caught up in the scandal involving allegations of tens of millions of dollars worth of bribes paid to FIFA officials.

Nike rival Adidas is one of the top FIFA sponsors, paying the body that oversees the World Cup an estimated \$31.6 million a year. But Nike has its own separate deals with national teams and soccer organizations, including Brazil. And that contract puts Nike squarely in the middle of the FIFA criminal case.

The indictments unsealed Wednesday don't name Nike by name. Instead they refer to "sportswear company E" in one indictment and "sportswear company A" in another indictment as having gotten the Brazilian team sponsorship deal in 1996. And Nike is the company that got the deal in 1996 to sponsor the team and supply it with soccer shoes and uniforms.

Nike (NKE) issued a statement Wednesday saying it

is very concerned about the allegations of corruption against FIFA officials and that it strongly opposes any form of manipulation or bribery.

"We have been cooperating, and will continue to cooperate, with the authorities," it said.

To get the deal with the Brazilian national team, the unnamed sportswear company had to deal with the Traffic Group, a sports marketing firm whose founder Jose Hawilla has plead guilty to bribing FIFA officials in order to become the middleman between the organization and various broadcasters and sponsors who wanted to strike deals with the soccer organizations. And the sportswear company agreed to pay the Traffic Group extra to get the Brazilian sponsorship deal done, according one of the indictments unsealed yesterday. The indictment said that contract called for the company to pay \$160 million to the Brazilian team over 10 years.

"Sportswear Company A agreed to pay a Traffic affiliate with a Swiss bank account an additional \$40 million in

base compensation on top of the \$160 million it was obligated to pay," according to the indictment. "It said Traffic also billed the company for an additional \$30 million in fees between 1996 and 1999.

The sponsorship deal is relatively small change to Nike, which has \$27.8 billion in annual sales and has agreed to endorsement deals with athletes worth \$4.7 billion. The indictment does not say that those payments by the sportswear company to the Traffic Group were illegal or were a bribe. But it does accuse Traffic Group and Hawilla of using the money to make illegal bribes to top FIFA officials.

Soccer is the world's most popular sport and has become an increasingly important part of Nike's business, since it sells more of its products outside the United States than it does in domestic sales. It did \$2.3 billion in sale of soccer shoes and gear in its most recent fiscal year, which was its second fastest growing segment behind only basketball.